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This Iowa DNR Water Quality Listserv is a subscription service that you have requested. Its purpose is to deliver timely water quality technical information directly to your email.

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## DNR WATER DISCHARGE PERMITS NOW SEARCHABLE ONLINE

Starting April 2, Iowans and other Internet users will be able to search and view final, individual wastewater discharge permits at a new interactive DNR Web site.

The DNR's Wastewater Public Information Exchange (WWPIE) will allow users to search National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits at [www.iowadnr.gov/water/npdes/](http://www.iowadnr.gov/water/npdes/). Users can search by facility name, county, city, ZIP code, river, stream designation, region, permit number and permit type.

All final individual NPDES permits are available for viewing in PDF file format. Facilities covered under General Permit numbers 1 to 5 and expired, closed or revoked individual NPDES permits are not included in WWPIE. Draft individual NPDES permits are not included at this time.

By summer 2007, WWPIE will allow public users to view and comment on draft NPDES permits, and will allow permittees and their designees to apply for permits online.

If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Cswercko at [courtney.cswercko@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:courtney.cswercko@dnr.state.ia.us) or by phone at (515) 281-7206.

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## PROPOSED REVISIONS OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

The department is proposing revisions to numeric chemical criteria in the Water Quality Standards. These revisions are being proposed as an informational item at the Environmental Protection Commission meeting in Des Moines on April 3, 2007. The revisions are summarized below.

- Change the current numerical criteria for 19 chemical parameters to protect aquatic life for the following designations: Class B(WW-1), Class B(WW-2), and Class B(WW-3).

- Change current numerical criteria to protect human health for 41 chemical parameters for Class HH – Human Health.
- Add the chemical parameter aldrin to Table 1 to protect aquatic life.

These proposed amendments will revise the current chemical criteria to reflect the latest scientific information and Environmental Protection Agency guidance.

Questions and comments regarding the proposed rules can be directed to Adam Schnieders at [adam.schnieders@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:adam.schnieders@dnr.state.ia.us) or by phone at (515)281-7409. A copy of the proposed rule is located at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/epc/07apr03a.html>.

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## DNR ANNOUNCES NEW GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS TO HELP IOWANS INSTALL URBAN STORMWATER PRACTICES

The DNR is encouraging cities, schools and other groups wanting to improve urban water quality to apply for its new storm water grant and loan programs.

Urban conservation practices, such as bioswales, rain gardens and permeable pavement, help slow and filter rain water as it runs off urban surfaces. As it runs across lawns and pavement, storm water can pick up pollutants like soil, fertilizers, pet waste and oil. That storm water washes into storm sewers, which dump the water into a local stream or lake without any treatment. Most urban conservation practices help storm water soak directly into the ground rather than runoff into storm sewers.

“Runoff from urban sources is a large source of pollution in Iowa,” said Bill Ehm, of the DNR’s Watershed Improvement program. “These grants and loans are just one more way we’re helping Iowans improve their streams and lakes.”

The DNR has up to \$170,000 available in grants to help build urban conservation practices. Grants must be used as cost-share funding, and will be limited to a maximum of 50 percent of the total project cost or \$7,500, whichever is less. The local cost-share match can be cash or an in-kind donation. Practices must be innovative, fully accessible to the public, and include a public outreach and education campaign.

To apply, visit [www.iowadnr.gov/rfp/](http://www.iowadnr.gov/rfp/) and click on “Improved Iowa Urban Stormwater Control Practices.” Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on May 11, 2007.

The DNR is also announcing a new addition to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, which provides low-interest loans to help Iowans improve urban stormwater quality. Stormwater Best Management Practice Loans, with an interest rate of three percent or less, start at \$5,000 and can fund up to 100 percent of costs for up to 20 years. To apply, contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District at any time. Financing for private borrowers is available through participating local lenders, and public entities should contact the Iowa Finance Authority.

Potential applicants with questions about the grant funding may contact Bill Ehm in writing at [William.Ehm@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:William.Ehm@dnr.state.ia.us) or via mail at the following address:

Bill Ehm

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Wallace State Office Building

502 E. 9th St.

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Those with questions about the Stormwater Best Management Practice Loan program can contact Tony Toigo in the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship at (515) 281-6148 or at [Tony.Toigo@idals.state.ia.us](mailto:Tony.Toigo@idals.state.ia.us). For more information on the grant program, contact Bill Ehm at (515) 281-4701.

For more information on both the grant and loan programs, please visit [www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/stormwater.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/stormwater.html).